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MONEY RULES

Will Supreme Court Rein in Big Money's Political Clout?

• Two-Party Monopoly Wants Even More Cash

By Michael Collins Piper

The reality of money-driven politics in America was openly bared on Oct. 8 when lawyers representing the GOP wing of the two-party monopoly stood before the U.S. Supreme Court urging the justices to further open up the election process to even bigger contributions from well-heeled donors.

The Republicans — who have an ugly history of working to silence dissident candidates within their own party who cross the GOP establishment — argued that legislative limits on campaign contributions interfere with freedom of speech.

This is essentially the same claim made in advocating the now-infamous *Citizens United* ruling by the Supreme Court that gave free speech to corporations and billionaires like casino tycoon, Sheldon Adelson — who called himself "the richest Jew in the world." *Citizens United* allowed big money interests to flood the campaign process with millions of dollars through so-called "super PACS" which can raise and spend unlimited amounts of money on influencing elections as long as they do not donate to any specific candidate or party.

Shaun McCutcheon — chairman of one such super PAC—is the GOP's point man in the case, McCutcheon v. Federal Election Commission, which is now before the court.

The Republican National Committee is supporting McCutcheon's effort to get the high court to strike down a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act that prohibits an individual from giving, during any two-year election cycle, more than $48,600 to candidates for the presidency or Congress and no more than $74,600 to political action committees (for a grand total of $123,200).

The Republicans want big donors to be able to give much more, this at a time when the average American can hardly afford to make even the most minimal donation to their church or a local charity.

And while the Republicans argue that "big labor" is able to influence political campaigns on behalf of the Democrats, the GOP is silent when reminded that even the Democratic Party receives hefty contributions from super PACs and wealthy donors from Wall Street and other special interests.

The hypocrisy of both Democrats and Republicans when it comes to "campaign finance reform" has been displayed time and time again over the past 40 years. Neither acknowledges the solution: strict limitation and control of money in politics.

Michael Collins Piper is the author of ***Final Judgment***, the controversial "underground bestseller" documenting the collaboration of Israeli intelligence in the assassination of John F. Kennedy. He is also the author of ***The New Babylon***, ***The High Priests of War***, ***The New Jerusalem: Zionist Power in America*** , ***The Judas Goats: The Enemy Within***, ***Dirty Secrets: Crime, Conspiracy & Cover-Up in the 20th Century***, ***The GOLEM: Israel's Hell Bomb***, and ***Target: Traficant.*** These works can be found at America First Books and First Amendment Books: 1-888-699-NEWS. He has lectured on suppressed topics in places as diverse as Malaysia, Japan, Canada, Russia and Abu Dhabi.

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